GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1019
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2016
Undertrials in Prison
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of under trials lodged in prisons as on date, State-wise;

(b) the present status/details of court backlogs in their cases, State-wise including Punjab;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the low rate of disposal of such cases in
various courts in the country; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for speedy disposal of such cases?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a)&(b): As per data collected by the National Crime Records Bureau from States/UTs at the end 2015, a total of 2,82,076 Under trial Prisoners were lodged in various prisons. The details of State/UT wise under trials lodged in Jails is at Annex−I.

(c) & (d): 'Prisons' is a State subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The management and administration of prisons falls exclusively in the domain of State Governments. However, considering the importance of the matter and various directions given by the Supreme Court, the Government of India has also taken various administrative and legislative measures in prison reforms and has been issuing various
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advisories to State Governments. For reducing the number of under trials in prisons, some of the measures taken are : (a) Establishment of Fast Track Courts (FTCs), (b) Launch of National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms, and (c) Insertion of a new section viz. 436A in the Criminal Procedure Code etc. The Government of India has advised the States/UTs to consider the best practices followed by other States/UTs towards reduction of under trial prisoners and have been advised to explore alternative to imprisonment. The Courts are also conducting regular Jail Adalats in the prisons for speedy disposal of cases.

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